## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

MC-02 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /049 W

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R 271410Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5404

CONFIDENTIAL SANAA 0988

FOR NEA/ARP

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, YE

SUBJECT: SHIPMENT OF M-825 VEHICLES

REF: A CDRAMC ALEXVA 101746Z APR 75 B DA WASHDC 102026Z APR 75

- 1. OVER LAST SEVERAL WEEKS BOTH DATT AND I HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY ASKED BY CHIEF OF STAFF GHASHMI FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ARRIVAL OF THE 30 M 825 VEHICLES (JEEPS) WHICH YARG ARMY HAS ORDERED AND PAID FOR AND WHICH ARE NOW PRESUMABLY BEING PREPARED FOR SHIPMENT. GHASHMI HAS STATED THAT HIS NEED FOR THESE VEHICLES IS "CRITICAL" IN VIEW OF RISING WAVE OF TERRORISM IN SOUTH AGAINST WHICH YARG ARMY IS NOW ATTEMPTING TAKE DEFENSIVE MEASURES. AS DEPT AWARE, THESE M 825'S ARE DESIGNED TO CARRY 106 MM RECOILESS RIFLES DELIVERED TO YARG IN JAN 75 WHICH GHASHMI DESCRIBED AS "THE HEAVIEST WEAPONS WE HAVE", ADDING THAT "WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO USE THEM NOW".
- 2. IN LINE WITH RECENT DOD MESSAGES (SEE REFTELS), WE HAVE TOLD GHASHMI THAT "ACTUAL DELIVERY TO YEMEN WILL DEPEND ON AVAILABILITY OF VESSELS BOUND FOR HODEIDA". AS ONE OF THE MESSAGES NOTES, HOWEVER, SHIPS TO THIS PORT ARE "INFREQUENT." BASED ON OUR OWN INFORMATION FROM HERE IT APPEARS THAT WE WILL BE LUCKY, INDEED, IF THESE VEHICLES ARRIVE IN COUNTRY BY JULY AT THE EARLIEST. CONFIDENTIAL

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- 3. IN VIEW OF THE PERSISTANT HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN THIS MATTER AND THE GENUINE URGENT NEED FOR THIS EQUIPMENT, I RECOMMEND THAT NEA DISCUSS WITH DOD POSSIBILITY OF SHIPPING THESE JEEPS IN A MORE EXPEDITIOUS MANNER. SPECIFICALLY, I SUGGEST THAT AN AIRLIFT BE CONSIDERED, POSSIBLY UTILIZING AIRCRAFT FLYING OUT OF INCRLIK ON ONE OF USUAL RUNS AROUND THE GULF AND INTO JIDDA. THERE WOULD BE NO TROUBLE OBTAINING LANDING RIGHTS FOR SUCH A PLANE AT THE SANAA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.
- 4. IN VIEW OF SAUDI FOOT-DRAGGING THUS FAR ON MODERNIZATION OF THE YARG ARMY, I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT WE NEED SOMETHING DRAMATIC AND TANGIBLE FAIRLY SOON TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE YARG MILITARY LEADERSHIP THAT WE IN FACT ARE SUPPORTING THEM, DESPITE CURRENT UNFORTUNATE DELAYS. EXPEDITIOUS SHIPMENT OF THE JEEPS BY AIRLIFT WOULD CERTAINLY BUY US MORE TIME WITH THE YEMENIS WHILE WE AND OUR SAUDI FRIENDS FIND A WAY TO CUT THROUGH THE RED TAPE WHICH SEEMS TO BE INHIBITING SPEEDIER ACTION IN RIYADH. SCOTES

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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Subject: SHIPMENT OF M-825 VEHICLES

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